IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED **CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

In re application of: Gary E. Choate, et al.

Confirmation No.: 8468

JUN 0 3 2004

Application No.: 10/831,131

Group Art Unit: 3652

Filed: November 26, 2002

Examiner: Steven A. Bratlie

FOR: CONFINED SPACE ENTRY DEVICE AND RELATED METHOD OF

ASSEMBLY

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FIRST CLASS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 and is addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Margaret R/Lawrence Date: May 18, 2004

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION WITH AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is responsive to the first Office Action mailed on February 18, 2004. This Response is being filed within the shortened statutory period for response. It is respectfully submitted that no other fees are believed due or payable. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 23-2820.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the Amendment and Remarks below.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows: